"He went, washed and received his sight"

The Catholic Parish of The Sacred Heart, Darwen

St. Joseph's Church Bolton Rd	St Edward's Church Blackburn Rd

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01254 702026
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Priest Fr. Brian Kealey

Fourth Sunday of Lent Ordinary Time Year A **15th March 2026**

St Edward's

St Joseph's

Mothering Sunday - Thanks to all mothers on their special day

Saturday	6.15 p.m.	9.15 a.m.	Mass Vigil Mass
Sunday	9.00 a.m.	11.00 a.m.	Fourth Sunday of Lent in Ordinary Time Year A
Monday			No Service
Tuesday		11.30 a.m.	Eucharistic Service followed by a Lenten Lunch of soup and bread and a discussion about how to deal with all the chocolate and alcohol saved.
Wednesday	9.15 a.m.		Mass
Thursday	9.00 a.m.		School Mass for St Joseph at St Joseph's Church
Friday	9.15 a.m.		Mass
Saturday	6.15 p.m.	9.15 a.m.	Mass Vigil Mass
Sunday	9.00 a.m.	11.00 a.m.	**Mass 5th Sunday of Lent in Ordinary Time Year A**

St Bede's Production
St Bede's school again had a triumph with their musical production of Sister Act. So many young people were involved. So much fun and so much work go into these shows. Credit goes to all who took part and especially to staff who made it all possible.

Lent means Soup
Generally Mass on Tuesdays during Lent will be held at St Edwards at 11.30 am, The Mass will be followed by soup in the Parish Hall. This is the annual traditional penance and fund raiser. All parishioners are encouraged to participate.

Turin Shroud
There is to be a copy of the Turin Shroud on display at Blackburn Cathedral from the **23rd of March until the 12th of April.**

Tuesday Mass
Apologies must go to the St Edwards half of our community for the lack of masses this week at St Edwards Church. However, chance and only one priest means that sacrifices have to be made.

Reconciliation Service
On **Tuesday 24th March** (the week before Holy Week) We hope to have a reconciliation service in St Joseph's Church involving a number of priests. This will include personal confession.

What are you doing for Lent?

A Musical Afternoon- advance notice
The Knights of St. Columba are organising a musical afternoon with Reece Thomas playing the guitar and singing hits from across the decades. This is taking place on **Sunday 3rd of May** at St Edward's Parish Hall from 1.30 pm. Tickets £7.00

Live-Stream St Joseph's: https://www.churchservices.tv/darwen

A special word for all those at home who follow the Church services on our streaming service. You remain very welcome and a real part of our praying community.

Mass Intentions
Lately Dead: Ilda Ricioppo (LD), Joanne Rigby (LD), Beryl Crabtree (LD). Sid Wilson (LD), Kazimierz Kozlowski (LD), Ewa Mazik (LD), Mark Roberts (LD), Pat Bourke (LD), Eveline Airey (LD), Lynne Pilkington (LD).
Anniversary: Joan Wright on her 100th Birthday anniversary**,** Harry Grime, Nellie Chadwick, Ellen Walsh, Barbara Timms, John Howard, Tiana Thompson, Tom McIver, Louis Sudall, Bill Read, Stuart Brindle, Brian Christopher Walsh.
Special Intention: For a successful operation and treatment, A special intention, Mass for a sick person.
Mothers Day: Esther McIntyre, Anne McIver, Elizabeth Burke.

A Talk on the Scriptures
Thanks to all who attended the talk given by Fr Brian on scripture. The three coaches expected from Birmingham did not turn up, but there were more than enough present to make it worthwhile.

The next talk will be on aspects of the New Testament. When? When Fr Brian has written it.

Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings
This group are now back on in St Joseph's Hall each Friday with a 7.00pm start. The group is extremely welcoming and have an Open Meeting on the first Friday every month for family, friends or professionals. All other Friday meetings are closed meetings for those with a drinking problem who want to stop. Contact 07963795427 or 07990598651.

Play Group
The Play Group at St Edwards will only meet once a month. The next play group will be on **25th of March** and will be open between 9.30-11am.

Palm Sunday
This is on **Sunday 29th** we shall follow our tradition and process with the cross up to Darwen Tower. We will be setting off from the Green near Darwen Leisure Centre BB3 1PW at 2.00pm. This is a great annual event lead by our scouting community.

Thought of the Week
Overcome worry by living one day at a time.

Spring Coach Trip
The date for this year's Spring Coach Trip is **Thursday 30th of April** and our destination is the wonderful City of Chester. The price will be £15. We will be picked up from Darwen about 9.00am and leave at about 5.00pm from the Roman Amphitheatre . It is quite a time off but think about it and jot it in your diary. There is now a list at the back of Church upon which you could please add your names and help with the planning.

Drug Addicts Anonymous
This group meets in St Edwards Parish Hall on a Thursday evening and are most welcome. Let us pray that groups such as this support each other. May they also spread the word about the ways out of dependency.

St Edward's Parish Hall
We have spent some money painting up the Parish Hall. Ithas been completed to such a high standard, that you will probably not have noticed.

A Poem for St Patrick's Day
Beyond the Headlines
Then I saw the wild geese flying.
In fair formation to their bases in Inchicore
And I knew that these wings would outwear the wings of war.
And a man's simple thoughts outlive the day's loud lying.
Don't fear, don't fear, I said to my soul.
The Bedlam of Time is an empty bucket rattled,
'Tis you who will say in the end who best battled.
Only they who fly home to God have flown at all.
Patrick Kavanagh, Collected Poems

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Rotas this weekend 14th & 15th March 2026
Readers Sat: 6.15 pm: D. Witherington
Sun 9 am: G, Brindle **11am:** A. Frangleton
Eucharistic Ministers ***Sat:*** **6.15** P. Craven
Sun 9 am: M. Worden **11 am**: M. Bauer

Rotas next weekend 21st and 22nd March 2026
Readers Sat 6.15pm: P. Craven
Sun 9 am: M. Sweeney **11am:** M. O'Boyle
Eucharistic Ministers Sat:6. 15pm: D. Witherington
Sun 9 am M. R. Gordon **11am:** C. Avino